

**STATEMENT DELIVERED BY MRS. MARY CHINERY-HESSE,
CHIEF ADVISOR TO H. E. THE PRESIDENT OF THE
REPUBLIC OF GHANA**

AT THE

**3RD INTERNATIONAL ROUNDTABLE ON
MANAGING FOR DEVELOPMENT RESULTS:
HANOI, VIETNAM; 5TH – 8TH FEBRUARY, 2007**

“THE ROAD TO GHANA”

The past three days have witnessed a series of intensive discussions among the various parties present at this 3rd Roundtable on Monitoring for Development Results. Central to the interaction between and among country delegations, development partners, civil society representatives and private sector organizations has been the focus on building and sustaining countries' capacity to adopt a results-oriented approach to development. I believe that this forum has afforded all participants and organizers a welcome opportunity to share and exchange experiences, as well as to engage in peer-to-peer dialogues on the subject.

Indeed, our time here in Hanoi has been remarkable. The synergies generated between and among delegations are a positive measure of how far we have come since the high-level talks in Marrakesh, Morocco (2004); Paris, France and Washington, DC both in 2005. At these three meetings, we all committed ourselves to managing and measuring the results of our various development agenda. The presentations made at this Roundtable demonstrate our practical efforts to this end. This meeting has also served as a forum for networking, as well as to showcase the activities of the Asian Community of Practice and the potential of such a body as a positive tool for development. Thanks to the obvious success of the latter, the Community of Practice for Africa has been inaugurated; and we have all witnessed the encouragement of our Asian and Latin American partners in this regard. Additionally, we have progressed further by developing country action plans; and I trust these will be improved for implementation.

Managing for development results puts a high premium on reliable and timely statistical data. For this reason, we **do** require additional resources from our Development Partners. When we next meet to review our progress and share our experiences, let us aspire to do so using quantitative and qualitative data, aided by graphs, maps and figures, so as to be able to present a trend analysis of our performance and responsibilities.

As this meeting draws to a close, I believe we are all looking forward to the next forum where we will have a chance to once more take stock of our performance and forge ahead in our quest for excellence in the management of our development efforts. At this juncture, it gives me great pleasure to announce that we shall have the opportunity to do this at the 3rd High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness scheduled to be held in Accra, Ghana from 4th to 6th September, 2008.

The Government of Ghana has already commenced with preparations towards this occasion, so as to ensure a successful meeting. A high-level planning committee under the chairmanship of the Deputy Minister of Finance & Economic Planning was inaugurated at the beginning of January this year. Its core membership is made up of twelve (12) high-level public servants from key Ministries, Departments and Agencies of Government. Four sub-committees have been formed under the supervision of the high-level planning committee and tasked to work on the actual deliverables for the meeting. They are authorized to co-opt members from other organizations, both governmental and non-governmental, to facilitate their various assignments. With these detailed preparations towards organizing the event, we are confident that we will be more than ready to host the 3rd High-Level Forum by the time September 2008 rolls in!

Allow me to inform you about all that will be happening in Ghana between now and September 2008. This year, 2007, is our Jubilee year. In about four (4) weeks, on the 6th of March, we will celebrate 50 years of independence. Many

activities have been planned to mark the occasion and, in addition, various international meetings are to be held in Accra. Thus, over the next few months – and indeed during 2008 as well – Ghana will be the venue for the “Financing for Development” meeting in May 2007, the annual meeting of the African Union in July 2007, the African Symposium on the Development of Statistics and the next UNCTAD meeting – both in January 2008 - to name a few. There is therefore much pressure on us to put the right structures together in order to host all these meetings successfully. As such, even if we had no experience as to what would be needed to organize the 3rd High-Level meeting, the forth-coming events would no doubt ensure that we get and stay on track.

We in Ghana are very much excited about hosting the High-Level Forum and are looking forward to welcoming you all to Accra. I can promise you the time of your lives! Indeed, by the time the meeting ends, you will not want to leave the country. Ghanaians are a very friendly people and you will really feel at home among us.

Before I end, I would like to commend the Government of Vietnam for the excellent arrangements that have characterized this meeting and the warm welcome extended to all of us. Congratulations also to the organizers of this meeting for all the effort that has gone into planning and pulling off the meeting. As we say in Ghana, “*Ayekoo*” to all of you.

Once again, we look forward to welcoming all of you to Accra in early September 2008.